

Some government support is available. The Canadian International Development Agency manages the Environment and Sustainable Development Program, which supports small projects internationally for cooperation, partnership, and solidarity. Most other initiatives get little or no government support. Instead, youth organizations and individuals use alternative tools such as the Internet, electronic mail, short-wave radio, and letters. Participation at meetings and travel is supported through their own fund-raising.

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR OTHER YOUTHS IN CANADA**

**Y**outh have suggested many vehicles to make their views known. They can write articles in school and local newspapers, or give performances to deliver messages. Youths can publish Eco-Journals and organize Youth Days that hold local municipal leaders accountable to youth speakers. Other suggestions are to design sustainability plans that consider local ecological realities and propose them to local governments and to establish community-based youth participation through ecoregional workshops and fora. Internationally, youth can continue to open doors and make contacts through international events and processes. The keys are to keep asking questions and never give up.

*In Canada, our ministers and processes are more accountable than many places I know. Few youth enjoy this; it carries a responsibility to speak true.*

(Environmental Youth Alliance, British Columbia)

*We are heard provincially with some national exposure...we put on an exhibition that some people notice.* (The Green Kids, Manitoba)

*People seem to think that unless you're educated, a biologist with an expert degree, you can't talk about an issue. There is very little respect for traditional or local*